

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A golf club head comprising:
a face portion formed by using a rolled metal plate member, the face portion having a thick-walled portion and a thin-walled portion,
wherein a reverse surface of said face portion comprises a flat surface at said thick-walled portion, said thin-walled portion being formed around said flat surface, and
wherein said flat surface comprises a substantially uniform elevation and has an outermost periphery located at a central area of said face portion.
2. (Original) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the thick-walled portion is smoothly connected to the thin-walled portion.
3. (Original) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein a change from the thick-walled portion to the thin-walled portion is gentler in a direction perpendicular to a rolling direction than in the rolling direction.
4. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the thick-walled portion and the thin-walled portion are formed by a change of said reverse surface of the face portion, and there is a difference in thickness of 10% or more between the thick-walled portion and the thin-walled portion.
5. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the face portion is formed by using the rolled metal plate member having a central portion which is thick-walled and a peripheral portion which is thin-walled.
6. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein a rolling direction of the metal plate member for making up the face portion is set to a short-dimension

Serial No. 09/994,893
Docket No. D12-140490M/TBS

direction of the face portion.

7. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 5, wherein at least a portion of said reverse surface of said face portion is machined to form said thin-walled portion, and wherein a machining direction is the same as a rolling direction of the metal plate member.

8. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 5, wherein the thin-walled portion is formed such that a thickness of said thin-walled portion decreases in a direction toward a peripheral side of the metal plate member.

9. (Currently amended) A golf club head comprising:
a face portion formed by using a rolled metal plate member, the face portion having a thick-walled portion and a thin-walled portion,

wherein the thick-walled portion and the thin-walled portion are formed in the face portion by forging the rolled metal plate, and

wherein a thickness of said thick-walled portion is substantially the same as a thickness of a plate from which said face portion is forged,

wherein said thick-walled portion comprises a substantially uniform elevation and has an outermost periphery located at a central area of said face portion.

10. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 5, wherein the face portion is subjected to rolling in a top-sole direction, and the central portion thereof is formed to be thick-walled.

11. (Original) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the thin-walled portion has a direction of its crystal grains oriented in a same direction as that of the thick-walled portion.

12. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 5, wherein the thin-walled

Serial No. 09/994,893
Docket No. D12-140490M/TBS

portion has a direction of its crystal grains oriented in a direction toward a periphery of the face portion.

13-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A golf club head comprising:

a head body; and
a face member,

wherein at least a peripheral portion of a reverse surface of the face member, which is located around a central portion of the reverse surface of the face member, is shaved down so that the central portion of the face member becomes thick, and a peripheral edge portion of the face member in which the peripheral portion around the central portion has been thinned is welded to said head body, and

wherein said reverse surface comprises a flat surface at said central portion said peripheral edge portion being formed around said flat surface, and

wherein said flat surface comprises a substantially uniform elevation and has an outermost periphery located at a central area of said face portion.

17. (Original) The golf club head according to claim 16, wherein a maximum height of the surface roughness of the peripheral portion of the reverse surface of the face member is 30 μm or less.

18. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 16, wherein a fringe surface for welding is formed at the peripheral edge portion of the reverse surface of the face portion by machining.

19. (Original) The golf club head according to claim 18, wherein a maximum height of the surface roughness of the fringe surface for welding is 30 μm or less.

Serial No. 09/994,893
Docket No. D12-140490M/TBS

20. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the face portion is formed by forging the rolled metal plate, such that said thick walled portion is not pressed during said forging.
21. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said thick-walled portion comprises a maximum thickness of 3 mm, and said thin-walled portion comprises a maximum thickness of 2.5 mm.
22. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said thick-walled portion comprises a maximum thickness of 2.7 mm, and said thin-walled portion comprises a maximum thickness of 2 mm.
23. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said metal plate member comprises crystal grains which are longitudinally oriented in a short-dimension direction of the face portion.
24. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said metal plate member comprises at least one of titanium, a titanium alloy, stainless steel, aluminum, and soft iron.
25. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 1, further comprising:
a head body having an opening, said thin-walled portion comprising a tilted fringe portion for abutting against said opening.
26. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 25, wherein said tilted fringe portion comprises a thickness which is less than a thickness of a remainder of said thin-walled portion.

Serial No. 09/994,893
Docket No. D12-140490M/TBS

27. (Previously presented) The golf club head according to claim 9, wherein said metal plate member comprises at least one of titanium, a titanium alloy, stainless steel, aluminum, and soft iron.

28. (Currently amended) A face member for a golf club head, comprising:
a rolled metal plate comprising:

a first portion; and

a second portion having a thickness which is less than a thickness of said first portion, said second portion being formed; by machining at least a portion of a reverse surface of said rolled metal plate,

wherein said reverse surface comprises a flat surface at said first portion, said second portion being formed around said flat surface, and

wherein said flat surface comprises a substantially uniform elevation and has an outermost periphery located at a central area of said face portion.